

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 04719 150754Z
ACTION AF-10

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UNCLAS LAGOS 4719

USICA

E.O. 11652 : NA
TAGS : NA
SUBJ : MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT ON THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT:
DR. RAIMI OJIKUTU

REF: A) LAGOS 4119 B) STATE 052981

1. AS INDICATED REFTEL A, POST SUBMITS BIODATA ON DR. RAIMI OJIKUTU
AS FOLLOWS:

FULL NAME: MR. RAIMI OLAWALE OJIKUTU
PRESENT POSITION : DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND PROTECTION,
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES, LAGOS
PAST POSITIONS: FELLOW, WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL
CENTRE FOR SCHOLARS, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,
WASHINGTON, D.C.:
SENIOR LECTURER, UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS:
RESEARCH FELLOW, GIESSEN UNIVERSITY,
GIESSEN, WEST GERMANY
DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH: [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 09 DEC 2014]: LAGOS, LAGOS STATE
PRESENT CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIAN: NONE PREVIOUS
ACADEMIC TRAINING : UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, LAWRENCE,
KANSAS-B.A.:
OXFORD UNIVERSITY, OXFORD, ENGLAND-
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DIPLOMA IN HUMAN BIOLOGY:
MAINZ UNIVERSITY, MAINZ, WEST
GERMANY-D.SC.
PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO US: FREQUENTLY
PREVIOUS TRAVEL OTHER COUNTRIES: U.S.S.R 1977:
MOST COUNTRIES IN WESTERN EUROPE
FREQUENTLY.

PREVIOUS USG GRANT : NIL

VISA ELIGIBILITY: NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE

REASONS FOR NOMINATION: THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT IS JUST

BEGINNING TO FORMULATE AN

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM UNDER A FEW TRAINED OFFICIALS BUT REQUIRES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CONTINUOUS CONTACT WITH COUNTRIES LIKE THE UNITED STATES WITH CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD.

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIALS HAVE ALREADY HAD CONTACT WITH THE U.S.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND HOPE TO CONTRACT WITH EPA

FOR A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, THROUGH AID'S REIMBURSABLE

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. UNDER THE SAME PROGRAM, THE U.S. CORPS

OF ENGINEERS HAS JUST SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL TO ADVISE ON THE

COUNTRY'S WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ENVIRON-

MENTAL CONSIDERATION. DR. RAIMI OJIKUTU IS THE NIGERIAN

GOVERNMENT'S CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIAL. HE HEADS A SMALL

STAFF WHICH ON APRIL 1 WAS PLACED UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES

WHEN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND

ENVIRONMENT WAS ABOLISHED AS AN ECONOMY MEASURE. THE MOVE IS

UNLIKELY TO MAKE HIS JOB EASIER. HE HAS BEEN IN HIS CURRENT

POSITION LESS THAN ONE YEAR AND IS STILL FORMULATING AN OVERALL

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FOR NIGERIA, HAVE BEGUN WITH THE MOST

CONSPICUOUS PROBLEMS OF LAGOS AND THE OIL INDUSTRY.

OBJECTIVES OF US VISIT: THIS PROJECT WOULD ORIENT HIM IN THE

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, A FIELD SO FAR

VIRTUALLY IGNORED, AND PROBABLY RESULT IN ITS INCLUSION IN

NIGERIA'S PROGRAM. IT WOULD ENABLE HIM TO EDUCATE AND

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INFLUENCE THE SEVERAL OTHER MINISTRIES WHICH SHOULD BE PROMOTING PROTECTION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BUT SO FAR ARE DOING LITTLE IN THIS DIRECTION. HE COULD ALSO IDENTIFY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

2. ADVISE.

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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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